GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4261
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
Dropout of Children due to Ill Treatment
Puttaraju Shri C.S.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dropouts from schools in the country during last three years, State/ UT-wise;
(b) whether there have been instances wherein dropouts were due to unsympathetic attitude of school authorities;
(c) if so, whether there have also been instances where children were tortured physically and/or mentally in this process resulting in dropout from schools; and
(d) whether the Governemnt has taken any action in this connection and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)
(a): As per the Unified District Information System for Education (U-DISE) data, the State/UT-wise annual average dropout rate at elementary, secondary and higher secondary level during last three years is at Annexure.
(b) to (d): Local grievance redressal mechanism and State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR) at State level and the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) at National level, have been set-up to redress grievances with regard to implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. Sections 31 and 32 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provide mechanisms and procedures for monitoring of child's right to education and redressal of grievances. The NCPCR has informed that they have received some complaints in this regard.
Assistance is provided to State Governments and UT Administrations for universalization of elementary education in the country under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Opening of 2.05 lakh new primary schools and 1.59 lakh new upper primary schools; and construction of 18.72 lakh additional classrooms have been sanctioned to the States and UTs till 30th June, 2016 to enable them to provide access to elementary education. In addition, 3609 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, which are residential schools for girls at upper primary level, have also been sanctioned to the States and UTs for improving access to marginalised girls particularly out of school, either drop out or never enrolled.
Under the SSA, provisions have also been made for residential schools/hostels and transportation/ escort facility for children living in sparsely populated areas, children living in areas where schools cannot be opened due to unavailability of land and children in need of care and protection. Special training is also provided to all such children who are school dropouts, children of migrants, children living in slums, street and working children, children without adult protection etc.
The Centrally sponsored scheme of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) envisages universalization of access to secondary schools by providing a secondary school within a reasonable distance (5 kilometers) of every habitation, improving quality of education through making all secondary schools conform to prescribed norms and removal of gender, socio-economic and disability barriers.
Other strategies adopted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development such as strengthening of school infrastructure, improving Pupil Teacher Ratio, providing incentives like free textbooks, uniforms for eligible category of children and mid-day meal in schools have proved to be useful in increasing the enrolment of children in elementary schools.
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